

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT.
PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS TO-NIGHT.

THEATRE COMIQUE.
No. 214 Broadway.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 30 P. M.BOOTH'S THEATRE.
corner of Twenty-third street and Sixth avenue.—THE HERO OF THE HOUR, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 30 P. M. Mr. Henry Stuart.ROMAN HIPPODROME.
Twenty-sixth street and Fourth avenue.—FETE AT PEKIN, afternoon and evening, at 2 and 5.WALLACK'S THEATRE.
Broadway.—THE SHAUGHRAUN, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 30 P. M. Mr. Boucicault.TERRACE GARDEN THEATRE.
Fifty-fifth street and Lexington avenue.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 30 P. M.FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE.
Twenty-sixth street and Broadway.—SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 30 P. M. Miss Fanny Leppert.BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE.
West Twenty-third street near Sixth avenue.—NEGRO MINSTRELS, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 30 P. M. Dan Bryant.BROOKLYN THEATRE.
Washington street.—JANE EYRE, at 8 P. M. Miss Charlotte Thompson.SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS.
Broadway, corner of Twenty-third street.—NEGRO MINSTRELS, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 30 P. M.ROBINSON HALL.
Sixteenth street.—REBORN DULL CARE, Mr. Macabre.GLOBE THEATRE.
Broadway.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 30 P. M.LYCEUM THEATRE.
Fourteenth street and Sixth avenue.—CHILPERIC, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 30 P. M. Miss Emily Soldene.NEW PARK THEATRE.
Fulton street.—THE ORPHANS, R. M. Carroll and Sons.GERMANIA THEATRE.
Fourth street.—ULTIMO, at 8 P. M.WOOD'S MUSEUM.
Broadway, corner of Twenty-third street.—OLIVER TWIST, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 30 P. M. J. H. Timon.METROPOLITAN THEATRE.
No. 285 Broadway.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 30 P. M.OLYMPIC THEATRE.
No. 224 Broadway.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 30 P. M.GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
Twenty-third street and Fifth avenue.—THE BLACK CROOK, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.PARK THEATRE.
Broadway, between Twenty-first and Twenty-second streets.—GILDED AGE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 30 P. M. Mr. John T. Raymond.COOPER INSTITUTE.
The Tennesseeans.NEW YORK STADT THEATRE.
Bowery.—DURCHGEANGENE WEISER, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 30 P. M. Miss Lina Mayr.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Tuesday, Dec. 15, 1874.

From our reports this morning the probabilities are that the weather to-day will be clear and very cold.

WALL STREET YESTERDAY.—The stock market was without feature other than an unsettled feeling. Gold advanced to 111½. Money was a shade more active.

THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS IN CHARGE OF THE FREEDMEN'S SAVINGS BANK shows that the depositors are not likely to realize much from its ruins. We give the melancholy document elsewhere.

THE WRECK OF THE cable steamer La Plata, with the loss of sixty lives, was attended by exciting scenes and acts of heroic courage, and we supplement the despatches already published by a full account by mail of the thrilling events.

THE SENATE YESTERDAY considered a large number of subjects, including the grasshopper plague, the rights of colored citizens in public schools and the Union Pacific Railroad; but its principal action was the appointment of a committee to provide for the entertainment of the King of the Hawaiian Islands. In the House there was a sharp debate upon Pacific Mail and on the Vicksburg affair, and a committee to investigate the latter was appointed. A great many new bills were introduced in both houses.

THE VON ARMIN TRIAL.—The testimony in the Von Armin case was closed yesterday and the arguments of counsel began. The prosecution insisted that the Count had abstracted State documents to be used against Prince Bismarck, while his counsel declared that he had acted simply for the defence of his own honor. Great indignation was felt in Paris because of papers read in the trial which showed that Bismarck had declared it his purpose to keep France weak for the benefit of Prussia.

INSURGENT SUCCESS IN CUBA.—If the news which comes to us from Havana be correct the Cuban insurrection has taken a step forward most threatening to Spanish power. For many years the Spanish authorities have felt that their only hope of crushing the patriots lay in confining them within a narrow territory. With this object extensive fortifications were built across the whole island. The patriots have now succeeded in forcing this line. As it is their intention to apply the torch to the plantations of the Western Department and invoke a servile insurrection a complete paralysis of business may be looked for. By destroying the material resources of the country the patriots hope to render it impossible for Spain to carry on the war. The remedy is a heroic one and tinged with barbarism; but those who stand by and see a weak people slaughtered in cold blood have no right to complain on the score of humanity.

The Troubles in the Southern States—Duty of Congress.

It is for many reasons desirable that Congress should act on the recommendation of the President, repeated last year in his annual Message, and relieve him from his unpleasant responsibility. With the single exception of the Louisiana case, in which the first steps of General Grant were precipitate and ill-advised, he has evinced praiseworthy caution and proper reluctance in interposing officially in the domestic politics of the South. When the application came from Texas he refused to interfere, and the result vindicated his wisdom, no State in the Union having been more quiet and orderly than Texas since his refusal. In the Arkansas excitement, last spring, he stood aloof as long as he could, and when he did act his recognition of Baxter was so fit that it silenced adverse criticism in every quarter. Had it not been for the New Orleans *émée* under Penn in September, which compelled a fresh interference in Louisiana, the President would have escaped the censure which fell upon him for abetting the Kellogg usurpation. But it was impossible for him to have acted otherwise than he did in September, although if he had been at liberty to abandon Kellogg at that stage Louisiana would have been thenceforward a quiet and orderly State. It is unfortunate that Congress did not intervene last winter to save the President from the necessity of going on in the path he mistakenly marked out for himself when he made Kellogg Governor.

It is to be hoped that Congress will now come to the President's relief and accept the responsibility which belongs to that body in all similar cases. Were it not for the new complication in Louisiana, which may require immediate action, this whole class of questions might safely await the action of Congress. Arkansas has a government which is, unquestionably, supported by a large majority of the citizens, and nobody can doubt that the tranquillity of the State will be maintained by the easy method of leaving it to itself. In the more recent Mississippi case it is not probable that an application will be made to the President, the action of Governor Ames and the Warren county negroes being too utterly indefensible to invite official investigation and exposure. Notwithstanding the ominous state of things in New Orleans we trust that the action of the Returning Board may lead to no disturbance of the peace, and that nothing may occur requiring the President's intervention until Congress shall have had time to investigate the subject and define his duties.

All the action of the President in cases of this kind is based upon an old law passed in the last century, by a Congress which had no foresight of the kind of difficulties which have arisen since the civil war. Nothing is more certain than that the law of 1795 did not contemplate a decision by the President between contending candidates for State offices where the only point in controversy is which of two competitors was legally elected. Congress ought to amend the law and adapt it to this class of cases, which never arose until within the last two years, but have since become so common. The wisest law that could be passed would be one forbidding any interference of the President with the result of an election and requiring him to support the officers whom an uninfluenced Board of Canvassers declared elected until Congress could make inquiries, and reverse the action of the State canvassers if it found reasons to justify intervention for that purpose. Had such a law been in force two years ago this scandalous Louisiana broil would not have arisen. No well informed man doubts that if the President had been compelled by law to keep aloof two years ago, pending the action of the Returning Board in Louisiana, McEnery would have been declared elected and that order and tranquillity would have been maintained in the State during these years of turmoil and disgrace. There will be no end of such troubles if a partisan President is left free to step in before the returns of a State election are canvassed and cut the Gordian knot by measures for installing the candidate supported by his own party. It is indispensable that Congress should define his duties in a matter so delicate and so nearly touching the vital principle of free institutions. The President should be permitted to have nothing to do with declaring the result of a State election. This should be left entirely to State officers, acting under State laws, and it should be made the duty of the President to provisionally support their declaration, whatever it may be, and, if he doubts the validity of a State election as declared by the State canvassers, to submit the question to Congress, maintaining the officers returned as elected until Congress shall have acted on the question. Had such a law been in existence two years ago President Grant would have escaped all the embarrassment, the South all the confusion and the republican party all the scandal which started with the aid given to Kellogg's usurpation.

It is evident from President Grant's recent Message that a more precise law on subjects of this class would have rendered his duties easy and have saved him from much embarrassment. After his intervention in favor of Kellogg he had doubts and misgivings as to the propriety of what he had done, and he has since repeatedly referred the question to Congress, asking it to relieve him from a responsibility which he does not covet. He feels that the present law leaves too much to his discretion, as is evident in his repeatedly asking Congress to review his action in the Louisiana case, and to put him on sure ground by either indorsing his course or prescribing a different one. President Grant himself does not believe that Kellogg was legally elected and legally declared Governor. He seems, in his last Message, to indorse Senator Carpenter's opinion that neither Kellogg nor McEnery is legally entitled to the office, and says that he supported Kellogg because he believed, on other grounds than the election returns, that Kellogg had a majority of the votes. Considering that the election returns are the only admissible evidence in such cases this admission of the President is sufficiently remarkable. That we may do him no injustice we insert his language:—"I have heretofore called the attention of Congress to this subject, stating that, on account of the frauds and forgeries committed at said election, and because it appears that the returns thereof were never legally canvassed, it was impossible to tell

thereby who were legally chosen. But, from the best sources of information at my command, I have always believed that the present State officers received a majority of the legal votes actually cast at that election." The frankness of this declaration and its freedom from chicanery sophistry give it a claim to respect; but the confession of the President that he decided who was Governor of Louisiana on different grounds from the election returns is very noteworthy. The official returns are the only legal evidence in any such case. Attempts to decide who was elected on any other data are mere conjecture and guess work. The President ought to be not merely relieved by law, but to be precluded by law, from usurping the duties of a State board of canvassers and assuming an authority which they do not possess of declaring the result without reference to the returns. He should be strictly forbidden to interfere, directly or indirectly, with the canvassing of the returns, and bound by strict statute to recognize the State officers whom the Canvassing Board declares elected until Congress can review the question. Had such a law been in force in 1872 the McEnery government would have been peacefully installed and Congress would never have interfered to disturb it. All these troubles have grown out of the necessity the President was under to act under statutes passed without reference to this class of cases and which ought to be rendered obsolete by new and timely laws, adapted to the present circumstances of the country.

The Revelations in the Ross Case.

A man whose word is worthless during life is often believed in death, and thus the dying confession of one of the burglars shot at Bay Ridge, L. I., yesterday morning, that he and his comrade were the kidnappers of Charley Ross, is generally accepted as truth. He had no motive for lying; he was dangerously wounded and knew that he must die. This man, Douglas, desired that the little money in his possession should be applied to procuring him a decent funeral, and said that his dead companion had stolen the boy and that he was his assistant in the deed. It is strange how the punishment of one crime leads to the detection of another, and there is reason to hope that the tragic death of these daring men may result in the restoration of Charley Ross to his parents.

Unless Douglas, in the moment of death, added an unmeaning and wanton falsehood to his other sins, there is no cause to doubt that he and Mosher were the abductors of the child for whom, during five months, unavailing search has been made. The police authorities now state that they had suspected these men, and had been in search for them; and that this is not merely an idle boast is shown by our full report of the facts to-day. The Superintendent of the New York police is said to have supposed Mosher and Douglas to be the kidnappers from the description given of them. There is, therefore, good reason, besides the confession of the dying man, to believe that the perpetrators of the crime have been discovered, and the recovery of the child ought to be the consequence.

The motive for further concealment is destroyed by the death of the principals. The storm of indignation which followed the kidnapping was wholly unexpected by these men, and they became afraid of the consequences of their own deed. They did not dare to surrender the child. But some person must have been in the confidence of Mosher, and as he is beyond all human power to harm, and as nothing now is to be gained by the retention of the boy, nothing risked by his restoration, it is probable that person will soon appear. The police have a clew now which they can hardly lose, and, unless Charley Ross has been killed, which there is every reason to doubt, he is likely to be soon restored to his family. Thus a happy ending may be hoped for a domestic tragedy which has thrilled every home in America and has become, by its mysterious and exceptional nature, almost a national sorrow. If it were a romance it would not be believed, and as a true story it stands almost alone in the criminal annals of our day.

How to Clean the Streets.

In Paris the streets and their contents are evidently contemplated in a very different light from that in which they appear to the eyes of our municipal authorities. Here the great problem is how to get somebody who will clean them for the least sum, though this "least" sum is a very large one—indeed, considering the service, a fabulous figure. In Paris the problem is who shall have the privilege of cleaning the streets and who will pay the most for it. With us dirty streets seem the one intolerable and unmanageable burden of life. In Paris the streets are contemplated as a sort of mine, the property of the authorities, and the right to work this perpetual mine as a valuable franchise that competing capitalists bid for. Contractors purchase the mud of the Paris streets, and the present contractors pay for it \$120,000 per annum. The terms of the purchase are that the contractors shall sweep up the filth and carry it away, and that the men whom they pay to perform this service shall be under the orders of the city authorities. Manufactured into fertilizers the material thus bought for \$120,000 is sold for \$600,000. And we pay enormous sums every year to have our mine cleaned out and its product carried away as rubbish.

WE ARE OCCASIONALLY in receipt of letters from advertisers, who complain that they are charged by agents for advertising in the HERALD more than our regular rates. One correspondent tells us that he paid a certain sum for an advertisement at our office, and upon giving one precisely similar to an agent he was charged about ten per cent more. He asks us to "let him know if this way of charging is correct." To this we answer that the HERALD has only one price, that it has no outside agents and allows no commissions to those in the agency business. We have our regular offices, No. 1,255 Broadway, No. 530 Third avenue, Third avenue and 124th street, and in Brooklyn, corner of Boerum street and Fulton avenue. Our friends will find the advertising rates the same at all of these offices. If they choose to pay an additional commission to "agents" we shall feel sorry, but we cannot help it. It is a matter over which we have no control. The way to avoid complaints is to deal with our own offices directly.

The Pacific Mail Investigation.

The investigation of the bribery suspected to have been practised by this company in procuring the annual subsidy of five hundred thousand dollars in 1872 is expected to proceed before the Committee on Ways and Means to-day by the examination of Richard B. Irwin, the most important witness and the supposed agent of the company in placing money where it would "do most good." Public expectation is active in relation to Mr. Irwin's disclosures in consequence of the extraordinary means that have been thought necessary for securing his attendance. When the first subpoena was issued to him last week he could not be found, and it was feared that he intended to slip away to Europe on one of the steamers which sailed on Saturday. The Sergeant-at-Arms of the House was accordingly ordered to proceed to New York, arrest Irwin for contempt and bring him to Washington. The arrest was made at the Hoffman House on Saturday, and Irwin, who was suffering or feigning illness, was kept under guard by Sergeant-at-Arms Ordway and his assistant until yesterday morning, when they set out with Irwin for Washington, where he is expected to testify to-day.

It appears from the testimony of Mr. Hatch before the committee, on Saturday, that the records of the company show that checks amounting to seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars were drawn to the order of Irwin in May, 1873, when the Pacific Mail subsidy was pending in Congress. Mr. Hatch swears that he has no knowledge of the purpose for which those checks were given or of the uses to which the money was applied. Irwin, of course, knows, but he may not be able to tell without criminating himself, and may prefer imprisonment for contempt in refusing to answer to the penalties to which a full statement of the truth might expose him. The company fell under suspicion soon after the subsidy was obtained, and at the next session an investigation was moved by Mr. Randall and ordered by the House. It had proceeded but a little way when the Forty-second Congress expired, and the testimony was sealed up for the Forty-third Congress, which was so engrossed by the currency debates last winter that it did not renew the investigation. The recent trouble in the affairs of the company recalled attention to the subject, and an investigation was promptly ordered at the beginning of this session.

The recent letter of Mr. John Roach, defending and lauding the company, has no real bearing on the subject of this investigation. Mr. Roach is probably under a bias in favor of a company which is his best customer, as he is the builder of its new ships; but no one doubts that he states his honest opinion of the merits of the company. Nobody suspects him of using improper influences with members of Congress, and it is not likely that Irwin and his employers made Mr. Roach a confidant in their lobbying schemes for getting the subsidy. The advantages to commerce and the shipbuilding interest which he sets forth are irrelevant to the question of bribery which the Committee on Ways and Means has undertaken to investigate. But if the bribery should be proved by valid evidence the subsidy would doubtless be withdrawn, which would ruin the company and extinguish the hopes of all the applicants for Congressional aid at this session. The keenest interest will therefore be felt in the testimony of Irwin, to be taken to-day.

This ugly crisis in the affairs of the company affords a fresh demonstration of the imprudence of President Grant in accepting its invitation last summer to the expensive and ostentatious trip of the City of Peking. The arraignment of the company for bribing its subsidy through Congress reflects an unpleasant light on the great excursion, in which the President allowed himself to be paraded as the chief recipient of its profuse hospitality. If the charges now under investigation are true the purpose of those prodigal attentions to the President and other officers of the government must have been to make friends in high quarters and lay up a store of official good will to shield the past from exposure and facilitate future raids on the Treasury. That flaunting and expensive pleasure trip was made at the expense of the taxpayers of the United States. It did not become a begging company to spend the people's money in junketing magnificence, and it became the President still less to give them his countenance and accept their scheming courtesies. We trust he will learn sufficient caution from what is now transpiring to save him from falling again into such thoughtless improprieties.

Mr. Forster's Speech.

America is a candid country, the more so, perhaps, because it finds concealment impossible. Nor can we hide our faults as a nation, nor the imperfections of our government. Credit Mobilier frauds, back-pay grabs, railroad swindles, misrule at the capital and usurpation and chaos at the South, are things which cannot be put away from the sight of other countries. We make a virtue of this necessity and invite the criticism we cannot help. But we are fortunate and glad when the critic is at once so friendly and so capable as the distinguished Englishman whom the Union League Club of this city entertained last evening. The Hon. W. E. Forster is one of the few public men in England who, during the late war, professed faith in the stability of the Union and defended the policy of our government. While he no doubt perceives many things in our institutions which are to be regretted, he certainly has always sympathized with their spirit and recognized their value. The welcome of this true friend of the United States has, therefore, been everywhere enthusiastic, and that his prolonged tour through the country has been a pleasant one we have his own assurance. In his speech at the Union League Club last night he said that he had not heard one mention of his native country that an Englishman would not like to hear, and as we are a candid people he may take this as a strong proof of good will. His speech is manly and thoughtful, and its concluding words respecting the duty of English speaking nations to protect their liberties by each preserving its own are those of true statesmanship and wisdom.

Uncle Dick in Congress.

A careful correspondent informs us that Uncle Dick announces his purpose to vote for every railroad subsidy bill which is brought into Congress. He thinks the country ought to be restored to "a prosperous condition," that "capital should be able to employ labor," and that it would be "a good thing to expend eight hundred million dollars." When the HERALD nominated and supported Uncle Dick for Congress it was upon the express idea that he would represent the largest ideas of legislation, that he would be the Colonel Mulberry Sellers of Representatives, that he would lead Congressmen from the barren pastures of economy into the high, bracing atmosphere of "public improvement," "American industry," and "development of the country." For Uncle Dick, like Napoleon as described by Lamartine, has a mind "every thought of which is an empire." We are not betraying any confidence when we say that the campaign that will open in the beginning of the year under the command of Uncle Dick will be the most remarkable ever known in the annals of legislation. His campaign will embrace the most comprehensive system of "public improvement" ever known. As we have no money now, and as money is an essential element in the campaigns of even as great a captain as Uncle Dick, we shall begin by purchasing one hundred new printing presses and setting them to "making money." After we have printed several thousand millions of beautifully engraved "currency" the work of "encouraging American industry" will begin. First comes the Alaska, Honduras and Patagonian Railway, with Brazil and Peru extensions. Then comes the Alleghany, Rocky Mountains and Sierra Nevada Canal Company, which is to connect San Francisco and New York by a direct water route. Then comes the annexation of Mexico and Cuba and South America, which is to be accomplished by diplomacy, the beginning of which will be a vote of one hundred millions dollars to the secret service fund, in order that the Secretary of State may bribe the Pope and the whole Order of Jesuits. Then we will have war with England, for the purpose of encouraging our shipping industry and the bunting manufacture and our gun trade, and to collect the balance of our indirect Alabama claims, amounting, in round numbers, to three thousand million dollars. The effect of this war, it is reasonable to suppose, will be the annexation of Ireland, India and the Pacific Islands, and the election of General Grant as President for a third term.

Uncle Dick is not alone in this campaign. As Napoleon had his marshals—his Murat, his Ney, his Massena, his Berthier—so Uncle Dick has his gifted lieutenants. He has taken possession of Welcker's famous restaurant. That distinguished host has put under contribution the vineyards of France, the moors of England, the trout streams of the Adirondacks and the oyster beds of the East River. The finest brands of Château Margaux, Chabertin, Sauterne and Pommery, with rare and exquisite cordials, whose golden glow represents the bottled sunshine of the Rhine valleys, have been imported for the feast. Colonel Mulberry Sellers will be detained by New York engagements from visiting Washington until after New Year's. He will be there shortly after the holidays, accompanied by his secretary and manager, Hon. William Stuart. Those who know Uncle Dick and Colonel Sellers and Mr. Stuart—and who does not know them?—will understand the wit, the flow of soul, the meriment, the classic taste, the remembrances of high society, that await the present Congress, while the house formerly occupied by the British Legation has been taken by a distinguished New York statesman and banker, who will not play an obscure part in this canvass.

We congratulate our statesmen upon their winter opportunities. Napoleon's Hundred Days form a memorable epoch in the history of France; Uncle Dick's Hundred Days will form a memorable epoch in the history of American legislation. But the parallel will end here; for Napoleon found a Waterloo—Uncle Dick will find an Austerlitz. In this canvass there will be no distinction of race, politics, reputation or color. Uncle Dick is too much of a statesman to despise the swarthy Carolinian, only freed from the chains of slavery, or the needy carpet-bagger, who has spent the proceeds of his last catchship and is anxious about his hotel bill. All will be welcome to these festivities. Unless fate, which controls the destinies of the greatest men—Cæsar, Hannibal, Napoleon, and even Uncle Dick—should fall cruelly upon these noble designs, the Forty-third Congress will end its career by giving to the country a series of schemes for "the development of American industry," for "the protection of labor," "the revival of business," and "the general prosperity of the masses" that will excite the astonishment, if not the admiration, of mankind.

Railroad Law in Europe.

With our extensive territory and one language and generally one law on all the ordinary points of human difficulty we are scarcely able to comprehend the troubles that beset mortality in Europe, where one railroad journey may carry the traveller in a day or two through three or four nations of different language, different law and different views of life generally. Difficult as it often is with us to locate responsibility and secure redress for injuries, we are at least relieved from the very great embarrassment in such pursuit that one always finds on the frontier of a foreign country. It is, therefore, rather with benevolent curiosity than with personal interest that we may contemplate the endeavors of society in Europe to secure the international recognition of some definite general principles for the satisfaction of grievances against railway companies. Suppose a manufacturer of fancy articles in Paris fills an order for goods to be delivered in Prague. He ships his case at Paris by a French company. At the frontier it goes into the hands of a Prussian company, which passes it on to the Nassau or Hessian company; and that, in turn, gives it to the Bavarian company, which gives it to the Austrian company, which, perhaps, passes it on to Prague. But it may get to Prague badly damaged, or it may not get there at all. In either case who is responsible? This is precisely what they want to know. If you

and the company that delivers a damaged package it proves that it received the package in a damaged state. You sue the next with a similar result, and the next, till you get to the first of the series, and that company perhaps proves that the package left its hands in perfect condition. With six suits determined against him a man is very apt to be sorry that he ever owned a package. It is to determine a whole category of difficulties of this nature that an international railroad congress is called for to consider the propriety of establishing some rules and usages on the basis of common consent. One of the rules proposed is that the company which delivers shall be responsible and shall have its remedy against any other company, as it is supposed that this will secure discrimination as to the condition of goods received. In the case of the absolute loss of goods the company which first received them will perhaps be held accountable.

THE LOUISIANA TROUBLES.—The situation in New Orleans has not been materially changed by the events of yesterday. The Returning Board met and proceeded to transact business by investigating certain charges of fraud; but before any progress had been made the presiding officer, Governor Wells, received information that the White Leaguers were in the vicinity and contemplated an attack. Upon the ground that he could not proceed with the canvass under the threat of violence, and that he did not wish to appeal to the United States troops for protection, Governor Wells compelled the Board to adjourn till eleven o'clock to-day. Nothing has therefore been done by either party, but the excitement is undiminished, and the danger of trouble is not removed. The Board of Returns is evidently afraid to act, and the White Leaguers watch it closely. If any overt act of violence is committed the United States military force is sure to interfere, and such a necessity will be universally deprecated. Louisiana can win no good by revolution, and one blow may make her condition more desperate.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Fortuny died of the Roman fever after an illness of eight days.

Professor Mark Butler, of New Haven, is staying at the Irving House.

Governor Henry Howard, of Rhode Island, is at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

Hobart Pasha, the Turkish Admiral, resumes his rank as Captain in the English navy.

Commander R. L. Brees, United States Navy, has quarters at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

Paymaster Israel O. Dewey, United States Army, is quartered at the Metropolitan Hotel.

Governor Charles H. Ingersoll, of Connecticut, arrived last evening at the Albemarle Hotel.

Rev. Dr. W. C. Oastell, President of Lafayette College, is residing at the St. Nicholas Hotel.

Ex-Governor Theodore F. Randolph, of New Jersey, has apartments at the New York Hotel.

Congressman-elect H. Holmes Odell, of Tarrytown, N. Y., has arrived at the St. James Hotel.

Señor Don J. J. Emparanza, Spanish Consul at Key West, is sojourning at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

In meditating in a critical occasion a man says to himself, "What shall I do?" a woman, "What shall I wear?"

Mr. Allan Rutherford, Third Auditor of the Treasury, arrived from Washington yesterday at the Metropolitan Hotel.

Mr. James Tillingshast, Superintendent of the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad, is at the Windsor Hotel.

Mr. E. A. de Pass, President of the Windsor and Annapolis Railroad, of Nova Scotia, is registered at the Union Square Hotel.

Ex-Governor J. B. Page, of Vermont, arrived in this city yesterday and took up his residence in the St. Nicholas Hotel.

State Senator William B. Woodin, of Auburn, and Assemblyman Thomas A. Alvord, of Syracuse, are at the Metropolitan Hotel.

The death of General H. B. Heath at Lima, Peru, on the 14th ult., is much regretted. He for some time edited the first English paper published at Callao.

Parties, says the cynic of the *Vie Parisienne*, are like women; they appreciate our fidelity to them, but they rejoice over our infidelities to another in their favor.

Judge Theodore Miller, of Hudson, N. Y., who was landed by the recent political tidal wave on the bench of the Court of the Appeals, is stopping at the Metropolitan Hotel.

If you can prove that a man has injured you, but cannot prove the date on which he did it, you cannot have a remedy. Such seems to be the point of law involved in that order for a bill of particulars.

The government of Ecuador has ordered the arrest of the editor of the *Nueva Era* of Guayaquil for speaking offensively of the President of the Republic and expressing an opinion adverse to his re-election.

In the commune of Givors, department of the Rhone, France, there are 2,714 voters, and at a recent election there was only one vote cast. Inference to the nominal right of self-government can no further go.

The Emperor of Russia is the greatest of human potentates, measured by the thermometer. At Sebastopol, November 17, it was twenty degrees warmer, and at Archangel the same day twenty degrees colder, than the freezing point.

As the strict application of the Russian law to the Mennonites would drive out of the country an industrious population of 40,000 persons, it is believed that the Ministry will accord to this sect complete exemption from military service.

Our wild Indians allege that one of their grievances is the "unjust discrimination" against them on the matter of railroad tariff. With the Indian arguing for his rights on the rail, it almost seems as if we could see daylight through the Indian problem.

Russia comes forward in the light of the Sultan's friend. His dignity in the matter of the treaties of Western Powers with the Danubian principalities has been saved by the czar. It is a bad case for the sick man when his best friend is in St. Petersburg.

Four brothers in Holland are aged respectively 88, 85, 83 and 81. The first two were in the grand army in Russia. The third was enrolled as an imperial soldier, but did not leave France, and the fourth was in the Dutch army. They are all in vigorous health.

In despair a French capitalist has invested all his money in cosmetics. He says that national obligations depend on politics and politics are uncertain, and every recognized security has similarly some weak point, but coquetry is human, flourishes everywhere and may always be counted upon.

Augustin Cochin one day interviewed a Paris ragpicker. He said, "What induces you to take up this occupation?" "Pride," was the answer. "How proud?" "Yes, I was a carver; but I had a great deal to do with my wages, and my comrades ridiculed my clothes. But I chose new companions among the ragpickers, who do not laugh at me, and I am happy in my rags."

Captain Labure, of the Belgian General Staff, has got into no water by his book of the *Service d'Etat Major*. He recently fought one of his crises, also an officer of the staff, in the little riding school at Brussels. The duel was with sabres, and by the terms every cut or thrust was admissible. There was not one restriction. Neither could touch his adversary when disarmed. Captain Crousse, the critic, fell in the course of the combat, but fell with his sword in his hand. He was, therefore, at Labure's mercy, who thereupon disarmed the dual.